Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) A computer system, comprising:

a processor which performs ~~programmed to perform~~ an arithmetic performance attribution computation to determine portfolio performance, relative to a benchmark, over multiple time periods t, where t varies from 1 to T, by determining coefficients $(A+\alpha_t)$, where A is a coefficient, the values α_t are defined as

$$\alpha_t = \left[\frac{R-\overline{R}-A\sum_{k=1}^{T}(R_k-\overline{R}_k)}{\sum_{k=1}^{T}(R_k-\overline{R}_k)^2}\right](R_t-\overline{R}_t),$$

where R_t is a portfolio return for period t, $\overline{R}_t$ is a benchmark return for period t, R_k is a portfolio return for period k, $\overline{R}_k$ is a benchmark return for period k, k varies from 1 to T, $R_k = R_t$ for $k = t$, $\overline{R}_k = \overline{R}_t$ for $k = t$, R is determined by

$$R = [\prod_{t=1}^{T}(1+R_t)]-1,$$

and $\overline{R}$ is determined by

$$\overline{R} = [\prod_{t=1}^{T}(1+\overline{R}_t)]-1;$$

and determining the portfolio relative performance as

$$R-\overline{R} = \sum_{t=1}^{T}\sum_{i=1}^{N}(A+\alpha_t)(I_{it}^{A}+S_{it}^{A}),$$

where I_{it}^{A} is an issue selection for sector i and period t, S_{it}^{A} is a sector selection for sector i and period t, and i ranges from 1 to N; and

a display device coupled to the processor for displaying a result of the arithmetic performance attribution computation.

6. (currently amended) A computer system, comprising:

a processor which performs ~~programmed to perform~~ a geometric performance attribution computation to determine portfolio performance, relative to a benchmark, over multiple time periods t, where t varies from 1 to T, by determining attribution effects for issue selection $(1+I_{it}^{G,Vestek})$ given by

$$1+I_{it}^{G,Vestek}=\left(\frac{1+w_{it}r_{it}}{1+w_{it}\bar{r}_{it}}\right)\Gamma_t$$

and determining attribution effects for sector selection $(1+S_{it}^{G,Vestek})$ given by

$$1+S_{it}^{G,Vestek}=\left(\frac{1+w_{it}\bar{r}_{it}}{1+\overline{w}_{it}\bar{r}_{it}}\right)\left(\frac{1+\overline{w}_{it}\overline{R}_t}{1+w_{it}\overline{R}_t}\right)\Gamma_t,$$

where the values of Γ_t are,

$$\Gamma_t=\left[\left(\frac{1+R_t}{1+\overline{R}_t}\right)\prod_{j=1}^{N}\frac{(1+\overline{w}_{jt}\bar{r}_{jt})(1+w_{jt}\overline{R}_t)}{(1+w_{jt}r_{jt})(1+\overline{w}_{jt}\overline{R}_t)}\right]^{\frac{1}{2N}},$$

where r_{jt} is a portfolio return for sector j for period t, $\bar{r}_{jt}$ is a benchmark return for sector j for period t, w_{jt} is a weight for r_{jt}, $\overline{w}_{jt}$ is a weight for $\bar{r}_{jt}$, r_{it} is a portfolio return for sector i for period t, $\bar{r}_{it}$ is a benchmark return for sector i for period t, w_{it} is a weight for r_{it}, $\overline{w}_{it}$ is a weight for $\bar{r}_{it}$, i ranges from 1 to N, $r_{it}=r_{jt}$ for $i=j$, $\bar{r}_{it}=\bar{r}_{jt}$ for $i=j$, $w_{it}=w_{jt}$ for $i=j$, $\overline{w}_{it}=\overline{w}_{jt}$ for $i=j$, R_t is a portfolio return for period t, $\overline{R}_t$ is a benchmark return for period t, R is determined by

$$R=[\prod_{t=1}^{T}(1+R_t)]-1$$

and $\overline{R}$ is determined by

$$\overline{R}=[\prod_{t=1}^{T}(1+\overline{R}_t)]-1;$$

and determining the portfolio performance as

$$\frac{1+R}{1+\overline{R}}=\prod_{t=1}^{T}\prod_{i=1}^{N}(1+I_{it}^{G,Vestek})(1+S_{it}^{G,Vestek});$$

and

a display device coupled to the processor for displaying a result of the geometric performance attribution computation.

7. (currently amended) A computer readable medium containing instructions ~~which stores code~~ for programming a processor to perform an arithmetic performance attribution computation to determine portfolio performance, relative to a benchmark, over multiple time periods t, where t varies from 1 to T, by determining coefficients $(A+\alpha_t)$, where A is a coefficient, the values α_t are defined as

$$\alpha_t = \left[\frac{R-\overline{R}-A\sum_{k=1}^{T}(R_k-\overline{R}_k)}{\sum_{k=1}^{T}(R_k-\overline{R}_k)^2}\right](R_t-\overline{R}_t),$$

where R_t is a portfolio return for period t, $\overline{R}_t$ is a benchmark return for period t, R_k is a portfolio return for period k, $\overline{R}_k$ is a benchmark return for period k, k varies from 1 to T, $R_k = R_t$ for $k=t$, $\overline{R}_k = \overline{R}_t$ for $k=t$, R is determined by

$$R = [\prod_{t=1}^{T}(1+R_t)]-1,$$

and $\overline{R}$ is determined by

$$\overline{R} = [\prod_{t=1}^{T}(1+\overline{R}_t)]-1;$$

and determining the portfolio relative performance as

$$R-\overline{R} = \sum_{t=1}^{T}\sum_{i=1}^{N}(A+\alpha_t)(I_{it}^{A}+S_{it}^{A}),$$

where I_{it}^{A} is an issue selection for sector i and period t, S_{it}^{A} is a sector selection for sector i and period t, and i ranges from 1 to N.

8. (currently amended) A computer readable medium containing instructions ~~which stores code~~ for programming a processor to perform a geometric performance attribution computation to determine portfolio performance, relative to a benchmark, over multiple time periods t, where t varies from 1 to T, by determining attribution effects for issue selection $(1+I_{it}^{G,Vestek})$ given by

$$1+I_{it}^{G,Vestek}=\left(\frac{1+w_{it}r_{it}}{1+w_{it}\overline{r}_{it}}\right)\Gamma_t$$

and determining attribution effects for sector selection $(1+S_{it}^{G,Vestek})$ given by

$$1+S_{it}^{G,Vestek}=\left(\frac{1+w_{it}\overline{r}_{it}}{1+\overline{w}_{it}\overline{r}_{it}}\right)\left(\frac{1+\overline{w}_{it}\overline{R}_t}{1+w_{it}\overline{R}_t}\right)\Gamma_t,$$

where the values of Γ_t are,

$$\Gamma_t=\left[\left(\frac{1+R_t}{1+\overline{R}_t}\right)\prod_{j=1}^{N}\frac{(1+\overline{w}_{jt}\overline{r}_{jt})(1+w_{jt}\overline{R}_t)}{(1+w_{jt}r_{jt})(1+\overline{w}_{jt}\overline{R}_t)}\right]^{\frac{1}{2N}},$$

where r_{jt} is a portfolio return for sector j for period t, $\overline{r}_{jt}$ is a benchmark return for sector j for period t, w_{jt} is a weight for r_{jt}, $\overline{w}_{jt}$ is a weight for $\overline{r}_{jt}$, r_{it} is a portfolio return for sector i for period t, $\overline{r}_{it}$ is a benchmark return for sector i for period t, w_{it} is a weight for r_{it}, $\overline{w}_{it}$ is a weight for $\overline{r}_{it}$, i ranges from 1 to N, $r_{it}=r_{jt}$ for $i=j$, $\overline{r}_{it}=\overline{r}_{jt}$ for $i=j$, $w_{it}=w_{jt}$ for $i=j$, $\overline{w}_{it}=\overline{w}_{jt}$ for $i=j$, R_t is a portfolio return for period t, $\overline{R}_t$ is a benchmark return for period t, R is determined by

$$R=[\prod_{t=1}^{T}(1+R_t)]-1$$

and $\overline{R}$ is determined by

$$\overline{R}=[\prod_{t=1}^{T}(1+\overline{R}_t)]-1;$$

and determining the portfolio performance as

$$\frac{1+R}{1+\overline{R}}=\prod_{t=1}^{T}\prod_{i=1}^{N}(1+I_{it}^{G,Vestek})(1+S_{it}^{G,Vestek}).$$

9-12. (canceled)

13. (new) An arithmetic performance attribution method for determining portfolio performance, relative to a benchmark, over multiple time periods t, where t varies from 1 to T, comprising the steps of:

generating data indicative of coefficients $(A+\alpha_t)$, where the values α_t are defined as

$$\alpha_t = \left[\frac{R - \overline{R} - A\sum_{k=1}^{T}(R_k - \overline{R}_k)}{\sum_{k=1}^{T}(R_k - \overline{R}_k)^2} \right](R_t - \overline{R}_t),$$

where R_t is a portfolio return for period t, $\overline{R}_t$ is a benchmark return for period t, R is determined by

$$R = [\prod_{t=1}^{T}(1 + R_t)] - 1,$$

and $\overline{R}$ is determined by

$$\overline{R} = [\prod_{t=1}^{T}(1 + \overline{R}_t)] - 1; \text{ and}$$

processing the data indicative of coefficients $(A + \alpha_t)$ to generate data indicative of $(A + \alpha_t)(I_{it}^{A} + S_{it}^{A})$, for each value of i in the range $1 \leq i \leq T$ and each value of t in the range $1 \leq i \leq N$, where I_{it}^{A} is an issue selection for sector i and period t, S_{it}^{A} is a sector selection for sector i and period t, and

$$R - \overline{R} = \sum_{t=1}^{T}\sum_{i=1}^{N}(A + \alpha_t)(I_{it}^{A} + S_{it}^{A}) .$$

14. (new) The method of claim 13, wherein A is

$$A = \frac{1}{T}\left[\frac{(R - \overline{R})}{(1+R)^{1/T} - (1+\overline{R})^{1/T}} \right], \text{ where } R \neq \overline{R},$$

or for the special case $R = \overline{R}$:

$$A = (1+R)^{(T-1)/T}.$$

15. (new) The method of claim 13, wherein A = 1.

16. (new) A geometric performance attribution method for determining portfolio performance, relative to a benchmark, over multiple time periods t, where t varies from 1 to T, comprising the steps of:

generating data indicative of attribution effects for issue selection $(1 + I_{it}^{G,Vestek})$ defined as

$$1 + I_{it}^{G,Vestek} = \left(\frac{1 + w_{it} r_{it}}{1 + w_{it} \overline{r}_{it}} \right) \Gamma_t$$

and generating data indicative of attribution effects for sector selection $(1+S_{it}^{G,Vestek})$ defined as

$$1+S_{it}^{G,Vestek}=\left(\frac{1+w_{it}\bar{r}_{it}}{1+\bar{w}_{it}\bar{r}_{it}}\right)\left(\frac{1+\bar{w}_{it}\bar{R}_t}{1+w_{it}\bar{R}_t}\right)\Gamma_t,$$

where R_t is a portfolio return for period t, $\bar{R}_t$ is a benchmark return for period t, and the values of Γ_t are

$$\Gamma_t=\left[\left(\frac{1+R_t}{1+\bar{R}_t}\right)\prod_{j=1}^{N}\frac{(1+\bar{w}_{jt}\bar{r}_{jt})(1+w_{jt}\bar{R}_t)}{(1+w_{jt}r_{jt})(1+\bar{w}_{jt}\bar{R}_t)}\right]^{\frac{1}{2N}},$$

where r_{jt} is a portfolio return for sector j for period t, $\bar{r}_{jt}$ is a benchmark return for sector j for period t, w_{jt} is a weight for r_{jt}, $\bar{w}_{jt}$ is a weight for $\bar{r}_{jt}$, R is determined by

$$R=[\prod_{t=1}^{T}(1+R_t)]-1$$

and $\bar{R}$ is determined by

$$\bar{R}=[\prod_{t=1}^{T}(1+\bar{R}_t)]-1\text{; and}$$

processing the data indicative of attribution effects for issue selection $(1+I_{it}^{G,Vestek})$ and processing the data indicative of attribution effects for sector selection $(1+S_{it}^{G,Vestek})$ to generate data indicative of $(1+I_{it}^{G,Vestek})(1+S_{it}^{G,Vestek})$, for each value of i in the range $1\leq i\leq$ T and each value of t in the range $1\leq i\leq$ N, where $I_{it}^{G,Vestek}$ is an issue selection for sector i and period t, $S_{it}^{G,Vestek}$ is a sector selection for sector i and period t, and

$$\frac{1+R}{1+\bar{R}}=\prod_{t=1}^{T}\prod_{i=1}^{N}(1+I_{it}^{G,Vestek})(1+S_{it}^{G,Vestek}),\text{ where}$$

$\frac{1+R}{1+\bar{R}}$ is the portfolio performance.